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17th October, 1960

COCOM Document 4192

COORDINATING COMMITTEE

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RECORD OF DISCUSSION

ON

PROPOSED UNITED KINGDOM EXPORT OF A COMPUTER TO THE  
SOVIET ZONE OF GERMANY

13th October, 1960

Present: Belgium (Luxembourg), Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.

Reference: COCOM Document 4157.

1. The CHAIRMAN drew the Committee's attention to the United Kingdom Delegation's Memorandum (COCOM Document 4157) proposing the export to the Soviet Zone of Germany of an analogue computer Model TY 864, value \$4,200, covered by Item 1565. He invited Delegates to express their Governments' views.
2. The FRENCH Delegate informed the Committee that, prior to his German colleague's important statement under "Other Business" at the beginning of the meeting on the subject of the Soviet Zone of Germany (see COCOM Document 4189), he would have been in a position to state that his authorities had no objection to the United Kingdom proposal to export a computer to that territory. In view of the political issue raised in the German Delegation's statement, however, he was now obliged to reserve his Government's position on this matter until after the discussion scheduled to take place on the 3rd November.
3. The ITALIAN Delegate associated himself with the French Delegate's view as to the opportunity of postponing the debate until after the 3rd November discussion.
4. The GERMAN Delegate stated that he had already informed his United Kingdom colleague that, in view of the destination involved, his authorities would be glad to have additional technical details about this computer. He reminded the Committee that in their proposals for the List Review (COCOM 4200.2), the German Delegation had not advocated any relaxation where analogue computers were concerned. Upon receipt of the additional technical information requested, his authorities would study the matter, but, the Delegate pointed out, in this case as in all others involving deliveries to the Soviet Zone of Germany, his Government's attitude would be very strict. He must therefore reserve his authorities' position for the time being.
5. The UNITED STATES Delegate stated that it was also his authorities' view that, where the Soviet Zone of Germany was concerned, the exceptions procedure should be applied strictly. He was unable to express his Government's views at the present meeting and, to enable his authorities to study the matter thoroughly, he said that he would be glad to receive any further technical information which the United Kingdom Delegate might be able to provide for the German Delegation. It would be after review of this information and further consideration of other pertinent factors that his authorities would be able to provide final views.

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6. The NETHERLANDS Delegate stated that he had received his authorities' instruction to raise no objection, particularly as a precedent had been created by the earlier case recorded in COCOM 3614 and 3617. In view, however, of today's statement by the German Delegate (recorded in COCOM 4189) he considered it advisable to reserve his Government's position until after settlement of the political issue involved.

7. The CANADIAN Delegate reserved his authorities' position for the time being.

8. The UNITED KINGDOM Delegate thanked Delegates for their statements. He had already requested the technical details about which he had been approached by his German colleague, and hoped to receive them shortly. On the more general question of the destination of this particular exceptions request, he fully appreciated the point of view expressed by several Delegations and would of course report it to his authorities. He looked forward to hearing the views of other Delegates at the following meeting.

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